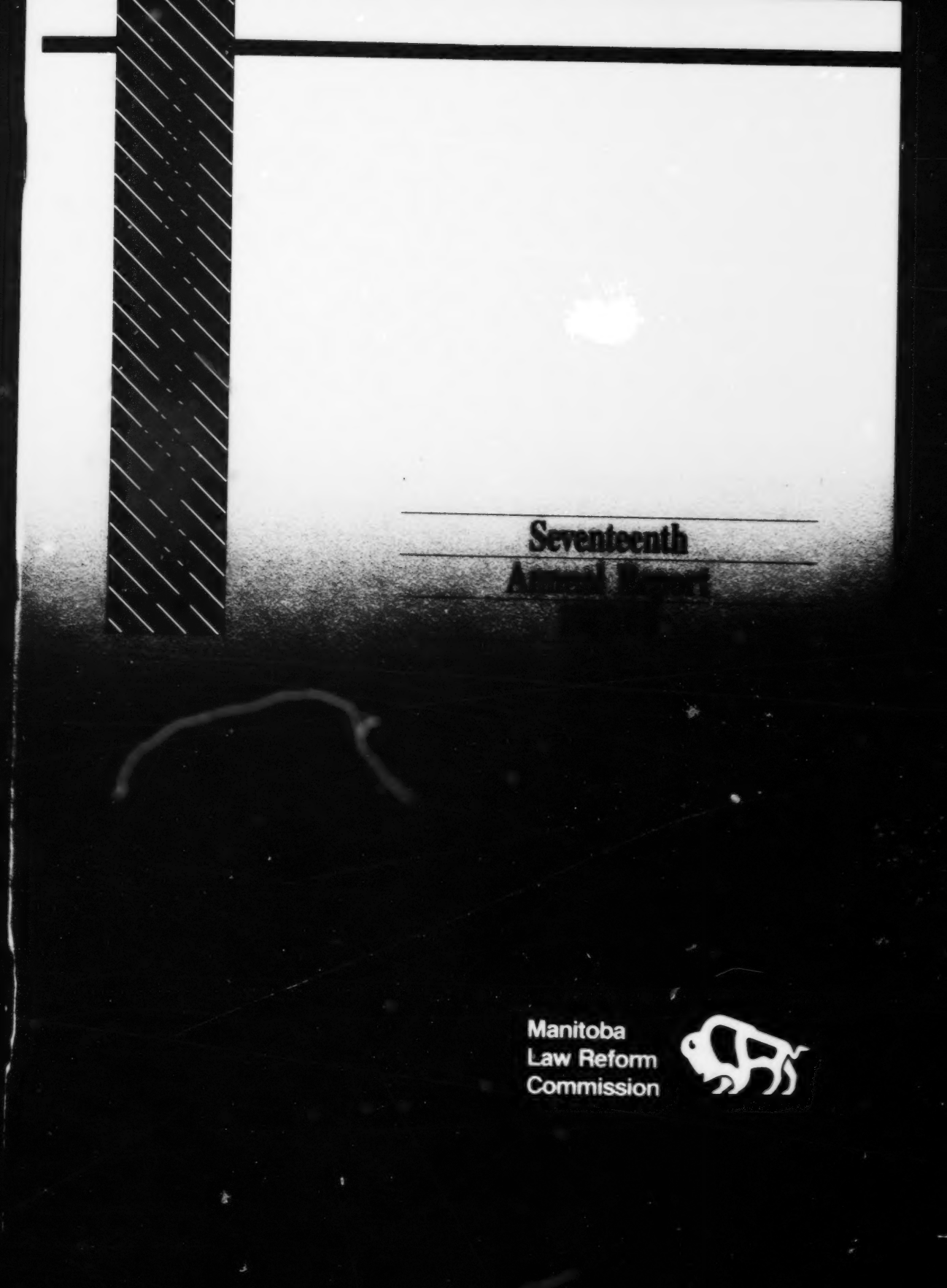
Seventeenth Annual Report



Manitoba
Law Reform
Commission

89-00793/

ANNUAL REPORT

1987-1988

September 14, 1988

The Manitoba Law Reform Commission was established by *The Law Reform Commission Act* in 1970 and began functioning in 1971.

The Commissioners now are:

Clifford H.C. Edwards, Q.C., *Chairman*
John C. Irvine
Gerald O. Jewers, J.
Eleanor R. Dawson
Pearl K. McGonigal

Director of Legal Research:

Jeffrey A. Schnoor

Legal Research Officers:

Iris C. Allen (part-time)
Nancy E. Harwood
Daniel Mathieu*
Sherri Walsh (part-time)*

Secretary:

Suzanne Pelletier

The Commission offices are located at 521 Woodsworth Building, 405 Broadway, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3L6. Tel. (204) 945-2896.

*resigned

Manitoba

Law Reform Commission

Commission de réforme du droit

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September 14th, 1988

Hon. James C. McCrae
Attorney-General of Manitoba
104 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Attorney:

In accordance with section 5(2) of *The Law Reform Commission Act*, we submit herewith the 17th Annual Report of the Manitoba Law Reform Commission for the period April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1988.

Yours respectfully

Clifford H.C. Edwards, Q.C.
Chairman

INTRODUCTION

Regrettably, the year past was one of upheaval for the Manitoba Law Reform Commission. However, the tale has a happy ending; to share with our readers the news of both our fall and rise, the span of some of the narrative in this Annual Report has been extended to cover the period from April 1, 1987 to July 27, 1988.

In early December of 1987, the government of the day made it clear that it intended to abolish the Manitoba Law Reform Commission. No Bill was to be presented to the Legislature repealing *The Law Reform Commission Act*. Instead, the abolition was to be accomplished by the expedient of revoking the appointments of the Commissioners, Lee Gibson (author and educator), John C. Irvine (law professor), Gerald O. Jewers (Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench) and Eleanor R. Dawson (lawyer in private practice). These individuals were, by order of the Cabinet, replaced by four senior members of the Department of the Attorney General whose evident mandate was to wind up the operations of the Commission, dismiss the research staff at the end of their respective contracts, and integrate the Commission's Director of Legal Research and Administrative Officer into the Department.

The public reaction to this initiative was vociferously negative. Strong criticism was voiced by the Law Society of Manitoba, the Manitoba Bar Association, the Faculty of Law of the University of Manitoba, and many individual lawyers, among others. Expressions of support were issued from other Canadian law reform agencies; the actions of Alberta's Institute of Law Research and Reform were especially uplifting at a time of crisis. Even more importantly, the protests from non-lawyers were equally vigorous. We note, in particular, the many supportive editorials which appeared on the pages of the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

An unexpected election in April of 1988 brought major changes to the political landscape of Manitoba. The resulting new government announced its intention to restore the Manitoba Law Reform Commission to its former status and followed through by removing the departmental officials. It re-appointed three of the four previous Commissioners and appointed the Hon. Pearl McGonigal, former Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, to replace Lee Gibson who has moved out of the province. We take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Gibson for her devoted service to the Commission over the past several years.

Clifford H.C. Edwards, Chairman of the Commission from July 1, 1979 to December 31, 1986, was re-appointed as Chairman.

THE COMMISSION'S MANDATE

The Manitoba Law Reform Commission was established by *The Law Reform Commission Act* to which royal assent was accorded on July 21, 1970 and which came into force on October 1, 1970. Its duties, as set out in the Act, are to inquire into and consider any matter relating to law in Manitoba with a view to making recommendations for the improvement, modernization and reform of law, including the removal of provisions which are outdated or inconsistent, the maintenance and improvement of the administration of justice, the review of judicial and quasi-judicial procedures under any Act and the development of new approaches to and new concepts of law in keeping with and responsive to the changing needs of society and of individual members of society. The recommendations of the Commission are made to the Minister charged with the administration of the Act (who has always been the Attorney General) and are then published and made publicly available.

The topics which are selected for review come from many different sources. First among these, of course, is the Attorney General of Manitoba; he may refer projects to the Commission and may assign priority to any which he selects. The Commission also frequently receives suggestions for projects from judges, law professors, lawyers, interest groups and members of the public. We are grateful for all suggestions and encourage all persons interested in law reform to point out to us areas which they encounter which require review. Although our limited resources do not permit us to take on every matter which is referred to us, anyone suggesting a topic can be assured that it will receive careful consideration.

Once a topic has been approved by the Commission, considerable research is undertaken by the staff (in some instances, where special expertise is required, the Commission may retain an outside consultant). Generally speaking, this research aims to determine the present state of the law in Manitoba, compare it with the law in other jurisdictions (both Canadian and foreign, such as England, Australia, New Zealand and the United States), and determine the views of legal commentators. Where appropriate, extensive consultation is also undertaken with persons who are interested or experienced

in the area of inquiry. A memorandum setting out the results of that research is then prepared by the staff and presented to the Commission for review; that memorandum will, also, identify various options for reform of the law. Where it is felt that additional consultation with interested groups or individuals is desirable (which is quite often the case), the Commission may defer making its policy determination and decide to first have a working paper or discussion paper prepared and circulated. Once the process of research, consultation and discussion is completed, the Commission decides upon its recommendations for changes in the law and a final report, based upon those recommendations, is written, submitted to the Attorney General and, in due course, published.

OPERATIONAL OBSERVATIONS

Meetings

The Commission held seven formal meetings from April 1, 1987 until the announcement of our intended abolition in mid-December of 1987. No meetings of the Commission were held thereafter. The minimum statutory requirement is four meetings annually.

Budget

The Commission's budget for the 1987-88 fiscal year was approved by the Manitoba Legislature at $366,000. However, this cost to the government was partially offset by a grant of $100,000 which it received from the Manitoba Law Foundation.

At the date of this Report, the Commission's budget for the current fiscal year is unknown. The government will, once again, receive a grant of $100,000 from the Manitoba Law Foundation.

Personnel

Although we regret losing her services, we wish to congratulate Janice Tokar, one of our legal research officers, and wish her well in her new endeavours. Ms Tokar was one of the successful recipients of the

Driedger-Pigeon Fellowship to study legislative drafting at the University of Ottawa. She, therefore, resigned from her duties at the end of May 1987. She was replaced by Mr. Daniel Mathieu, a Winnipeg practitioner, who in turn resigned at the end of May 1988 to take up a position with the Institut Joseph Dubuc.

On her return from maternity leave, Ms Iris C. Allen requested that her new contract be on a half-time basis only. We therefore filled the other half of her position by hiring Ms Sherri Walsh; unfortunately, Ms Walsh left us in mid-December to take up a position in private practice.

During the summer of 1987, we were again fortunate in having two law students working on various projects: Mr. Maury Stephensen, a second year student at the Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba, and Ms Gail Karish, a second year student at the Faculty of Law, McGill University. Both produced research papers of high quality and were a valuable asset to the Commission. We have been permitted to employ two law students every summer for the last fifteen years and we cannot over-emphasize the contributions which they make to our relatively small research staff.

Finally, we must extend a special vote of thanks to our Director of Legal Research, Jeffrey Schnoor, research lawyers Nancy Harwood and Iris Allen, and Administrative Officer, Suzanne Pelletier. Their loyalty and diligence in the face of difficult times over the last year kept alive the flame of law reform in Manitoba and made possible the restoration of this Commission. Their dedicated service is gratefully acknowledged.

Computerization

The Manitoba Law Reform Commission was an early and enthusiastic user of computerized word processing equipment. The Commission significantly expanded its use of computers this year when it acquired personal computers for its research staff. These machines have been equipped with a powerful text-base program which, we hope, will gradually reduce paper as the repository for the very extensive research notes which are generated in the course of each project. Although the events of December somewhat disrupted the progress of our computerization, our experience in the brave new world has

been very positive; we expect that the computer will play an increasingly important and valuable part in our work as time passes and our familiarity with its abilities increases.

THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAM

Completed Projects

Formal reports

No formal reports were issued during the past year.

Informal reports

#17A - *The Wages Recovery Act*, September 9, 1987.

The Wages Recovery Act was enacted in 1936 with the apparent intention of providing employees with an inexpensive expeditious procedure for the recovery of unpaid wages. The Commission concluded that the provisions of *The Wages Recovery Act* have been generally overshadowed by the range of more adequate and effective provisions contained in similar statutes, such as *The Payment of Wages Act*, *The Employment Standards Act*, *The Construction Industry Wages Act* and *The Vacations With Pay Act*. Those of its provisions which are not duplicated elsewhere are either outdated or are of such limited use to employees that there is no need to prolong their existence (among these is the power to imprison employers who do not pay their domestic servants). The Commission recommended that *The Wages Recovery Act* be repealed and that the multifarious wages recovery provisions in Manitoba be harmonized and consolidated into a single statute.

Implementation of Recommendations

Ironically, during the past year, the Legislature did implement the recommendations contained in four of the Commission's Reports: *Breach of Promise to Marry* (1984), *Jactitation of Marriage* (1984), *The Human Tissue Act* (1986), and *Sections 33 and 34 of The Wills Act* (1986). It is our understanding that the government is, through policy, implementing many of the recommendations contained in our *Report on Administrative Law, Part I: Procedures of Provincial Government Agencies* (1984) (no legislative amendments were required).

Since its inception in 1970, 80% of the Commission's formal Reports and 88% of its informal Reports have been implemented by legislation or otherwise.

Work in Progress

The following is a list of the projects which had been approved for the Commission's agenda immediately prior to the then government's decision that the Commission was to be wound down. The future program of the Commission is presently being reviewed.

1. *The Bulk Sales Act*

The Bulk Sales Act was enacted in almost every North American jurisdiction, including Manitoba, in the early 1900s. Its ostensible purpose is to protect creditors from the possibility that merchants indebted to them may sell all of their assets and abscond with the proceeds, leaving them unpaid and victimized. Lawyers must have regard to this statute each time they are involved in a purchase or sale of assets.

The Commission prepared a Discussion Paper which was circulated among lawyers, academics, business people and credit grantors. The Paper concluded that the present Act is hopelessly flawed in its scope and operation and that it should be repealed. Opinions were sought as to whether a replacement scheme, devised by the Commission and detailed in the Paper, should be enacted in its place. Based on the responses received and on its own deliberations, the Commission reached the tentative conclusion that no replacement statute should be enacted. On December 1, 1987, a letter was sent to the recipients of the original mailing advising them of the tentative conclusion and giving them a final opportunity to comment prior to January 15, 1988. In addition, a meeting was held with the Business Law Subsection of the Manitoba Bar Association to determine its views on the Discussion Paper.

Once the Commission reviews the responses which were received and determines its final recommendations, a final Report will be prepared.

2. Minors' Contracts

The law of minors' contracts is complex, arbitrary and full of uncertainties; it is based on irrational distinctions and is sometimes unfair to the parties involved. A memorandum isolating the specific problems and possible solutions has been prepared and is ready for review by the reconstituted Commission.

3. Concurrent Realization on Real and Personal Property

It is common for lenders to take security for a single debt upon both real and personal property (for example, security might be taken upon an apartment block and upon the washers and dryers within it). However, the interrelationship of *The Mortgage Act* and *The Personal Property Security Act* makes it difficult to realize upon both in the event of a default. If the lender takes title to one, the claim to the other may be lost. Research on this project was nearing completion in December 1987.

4. *The Nuisance Act*

The Nuisance Act was enacted in 1976. It acts as a bar to nuisance actions for odours emanating from a business, so long as the business is in compliance with *The Environment Act*, *The Public Health Act*, and the like. It is a rather odd statute whose true purpose is difficult to ascertain (which, of course, complicates the task of reform). It may be that the Act was an attempt by the Legislature at "right to farm" legislation. If so, its anomalies and inconsistencies suggest that it was a very strange attempt.

Preliminary research has been done on this project.

5. *The Landlord and Tenant Act*, Parts I, II and III

The Commission had determined that Parts I, II and III of *The Landlord and Tenant Act* (non-residential tenancies) were arcane and archaic and in great need of reform and simplification. Accordingly, a Winnipeg lawyer, Mr. David Phillips, was engaged on contract by the Commission to prepare a Working Paper on Commercial Distress for Rent (Self-Help Remedies). This Paper was intended to be the first of a series of Papers dealing with the various aspects of this subject.

6. Legal Representation of Children

The scope of this project is very broad. While it encompasses the representation of children in family law proceedings, it is not restricted to that field. The basic issue is whether children should be entitled as of right to representation which is under their control and subject to their instructions in all manner of legal proceedings. If so, how can this best be accomplished? What is the role of the counsel? What are the cost implications? Should there be a gradation of rights based upon age? If an absolute right to independent representation should not be accorded, should the legal position of children in court be otherwise modified?

Although much research has been done and several memoranda have been prepared on this topic, the project remains in its early stages.

7. Living Wills

This project addresses the question of whether individuals should be entitled to execute "living wills" (or some other instrument) instructing a physician to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining procedures in the event of a terminal condition in circumstances where they are otherwise unable to communicate. A memorandum has been prepared for the consideration of the Commission.

8. Sterilization of Minors and Mentally Handicapped Adults

This matter was originally referred to the Law Reform Commission in 1980 by the then Attorney-General. However, the project was placed in abeyance until the important case of *Re Eve* had finished working its way through the courts. Following the delivery of the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada, the Commission again considered the matter; in light of the fact that the Alberta Institute of Law Research and Reform was well advanced in its work on the same topic, the Commission decided to await

their report. The Alberta Institute's Report for Discussion was recently received and, accordingly, the topic has now returned to the Commission's agenda for consideration.

9. Unconscionable Transactions (Unfair Contracts)

Manitoba, like most other Canadian jurisdictions, enacted *The Unconscionable Transactions Relief Act* in the mid-1960s. However, the application of this statute is limited to money-lending. In more recent years, a number of provinces have enacted additional legislation to provide judicial and/or administrative relief from unfair contracts of all types; similar legislation exists in the United States, Australia and New Zealand. This project, which was in the early research stages in December 1987, was to review the relevant enactments, consider the adequacy of the court's jurisdiction to provide relief, and examine the advisability of introducing broader legislation in Manitoba.

10. Human Artificial Reproduction

Although this topic has been on the Commission's agenda for some time, relatively little work has been done on it to date. While aware of the topic's importance, the Commission recognized that it lacks the resources to deal with the full range of issues raised by it. Accordingly, the efforts of the staff were concentrated on an attempt to identify smaller discrete issues which are manageable and viewed by interested groups as important. We had begun a process of consultation which, unfortunately, did not progress beyond a meeting with the Manitoba Advisory Council on the Status of Women. No further work was done on this topic following the abortive abolition of the Commission.

11. Land Titles Registration System

This is a joint project with other Western Canadian law reform agencies. Its purpose is to produce a revised and improved Land Titles Act which would hopefully serve as a more functional foundation for a modern land titles registration system. Our Commission's representative on the project has been Dean Trevor Anderson. However, the main carriage of the project is the responsibility of the Alberta Institute of Law Research and Reform, which has, in turn, entrusted it to Professor Tom Mapp. Although this project has been relatively inactive, further activity is expected shortly.

12. Special Constables

This project was added to the Commission's agenda some time ago because of a request from the then Attorney General that it study special constable appointments to determine what specific powers and authority should be given to these officers and whether they should be deemed to be peace officers; the study was also to consider the need for and effectiveness of such appointees. This project has been held in abeyance because of the demands of more pressing projects.

13. Animal Protection and Control

Last fall, the Winnipeg Humane Society requested that the Manitoba Law Reform Commission review provincial legislation dealing with animal protection and control. The Commission agreed to place the matter on its agenda. However, no work has commenced on it yet.

14. The Law of Mortgages

This topic was added to the Commission's agenda shortly before the Commission's near demise in December. No work has begun on this topic.

15. Personal Injury Compensation

In last year's Annual Report, we indicated that we had completed extensive background papers describing the existing federal and provincial schemes providing compensation to those disabled and to the dependants of those dying as a result of accident and illness; a paper describing alternatives to these existing systems had also been prepared. We indicated that the Commission was considering the future phases of this project and was contemplating the commencement of a major study of the subject.

At the request of the then Attorney General, the Commission proposed in early 1987 to build upon the work that had been done and to undertake a major project examining the adequacy of the present Manitoba system of personal injury compensation. However, the Commission indicated to the Attorney General that new empirical data would be essential to the success and credibility of such a project and that additional funding would be required for this purpose. The provincial Cabinet ultimately decided that it did not wish us to proceed with this project. Unfortunately, the time spent in preparing the requested proposal for this project and awaiting a response had a very negative impact on our ability to work on and plan other projects during the first half of 1987. Although the Commission considers this to be a very worthwhile project, it is presently in abeyance.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Law reform cannot take place in a vacuum. It must be responsive to the society which it serves. The public must know that the Manitoba Law Reform Commission has a mandate to make recommendations for reform of the law and that it is receptive to their participation; their suggestions for appropriate areas for review are welcomed. Members of the public should be aware that the Commission has a very good track record in the adoption of its recommendations by the Manitoba Legislature and that it is therefore an effective vehicle for their concerns. The public should also be made aware of the reports of the Commission as they are published. While this is not an easy task, it is one to which the Manitoba Law Reform Commission devoted itself with renewed vigour during the portion of last year preceding the attempted abolition.

Members of the Commission's staff were available to meet the public at a downtown Winnipeg shopping mall during Law Day, April 15, 1987.

Brochures outlining the role of the Commission and summarizing some recent reports were prepared for the occasion. The Commission participated in a similar manner in the public events which were held to commemorate the opening of the renovated Law Courts Building in Winnipeg in early December, 1987. Mr. Schnoor was interviewed by CBC Radio on two occasions respecting different projects of the Commission and also spoke with other members of the media. He and Nancy Harwood met with and sought the views of the Business Law Subsection of the Manitoba Bar Association and the Manitoba Advisory Committee on the Status of Women respecting different on-going projects.

In October, 1987, we were visited by representatives of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Review of Liability and Compensation Issues in Health Care at which a discussion was held concerning our work in the area of personal injury compensation. In February 1988, Mr. Schnoor was invited to speak on the Commission's reports dealing with administrative law to a seminar sponsored by the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice.

Mr. Schnoor and Ms Eleanor Dawson attended the Law Reform Conference of Canada and the Uniform Law Conference of Canada which were held in Victoria, British Columbia, in August 1987. At this latter meeting, an important contribution was made to the adoption of an amendment to the Uniform Wills Act accepting the principle of substantial compliance. This principle permits courts to give effect to wills having technical defects if the document clearly embodies the testamentary intention of the deceased. At present, Manitoba is the only Canadian jurisdiction (and one of only a few in the world) to have enacted such a provision; the Manitoba law was based on the Commission's Report #43 (1980).

During the Manitoba Bar Association's Annual Convention in June 1987 (held conjointly with the Minnesota State Bar Association), Mr. Schnoor was invited to attend a breakfast meeting concerning Continuing Legal Education and was one of the speakers at a plenary session comparing the Manitoba and Minnesota tort reparation systems. Prof. John Irvine also spoke on the subject during a seminar at the Convention; he made particular note of the contributions of the Commission in this area, including its recent ***Report on Period Payment of Damages for Personal Injury and Death.***

We were also pleased to be able to host a meeting held by the Law Reform Commission of Canada with members of our staff and representatives from the University of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg, the Department of the

Attorney General, the Ombudsman and others. The topic was the future agenda of the federal Commission's work in the field of administrative law.

As well, the Commission has been fortunate in developing a good and mutually beneficial relationship with the University of North Dakota School of Law. Mr. Schnoor and Ms Harwood were invited to attend a very useful seminar there on American research materials and methods. In addition, Mr. Schnoor was invited to address a class there in the fall of 1987.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As is our custom, we take this opportunity to thank all who assisted in the work of the Manitoba Law Reform Commission over the last year. We extend special notes of thanks to the Dean of the Faculty of Law, D. Trevor Anderson, and to the staff of the E.K. Williams Library, the Attorney General's Library Services, the Great Library, and the Provincial Archives and Legislative Library.

Finally, we thank the Attorney General of Manitoba, the Hon. James C. McCrae, for his interest in and support of the Commission, his willingness to consult with us, and his concern for the success of the work of the Commission.

This is a Report pursuant to section 5(2) of *The Law Reform Commission Act*, submitted as of the 27th day of July, 1988.

John Irvine

John C. Irvine, Commissioner

Gerald O. Jewers, Commissioner

Eleanor R. Dawson

Eleanor R. Dawson, Commissioner

As Prof. Edwards and Mrs. McGonigal were not members of the Commission during the period covered by this Annual Report, it has not been signed by them.

APPENDIX A

REPORTS OF THE MANITOBA LAW REFORM COMMISSION

Subject	Date Submitted	Original legislation implementing the Commission's recommendations
#1 Jury Service for Registered Indians	April 7, 1971	An Act to Amend The Jury Act, S.M. 1971, cap. 32, Royal Assent July 27, 1971
#2 Summary Disposition of Builders' and Workmen's Liens	April 13, 1971	An Act to Amend The Builders and Workmen Act, S.M. 1976, cap. 22, Royal Assent June 3, 1976
#3 Disposition of Maintenance Judgments in Land Titles Offices	May 25, 1971	An Act to Amend The Judgments Act, S.M. 1972, cap. 4, Royal Assent May 9, 1972
#4 An Act Respecting Billiard and Pool Rooms proposed repeal	October 19, 1971	The Statute Law Amendment Act (1974), S.M. 1974, cap. 59, Royal Assent June 14, 1974 (sec. 8)
#5 Recommended Right of Mortgagors to Obtain Annual Statements	October 19, 1971	An Act to Amend The Mortgage Act, S.M. 1972, cap. 28, Royal Assent July 6, 1972
#6 Enactment of a Mineral Declaratory Act	December 20, 1971	The Sand and Gravel Act, S.M. 1972, cap. 34, Royal Assent July 6, 1972 An Act to Amend The Mines Act (sec. 11), S.M. 1972, cap. 70, Royal Assent July 20, 1972 An Act to Amend The Real Property Act (secs. 15 and 16), S.M. 1972, cap. 70, Royal Assent July 6, 1972
#7 Powers of Entry, Search and Seizure in The City of Winnipeg Act	January 24, 1972	An Act to Amend The City of Winnipeg Act (secs. 26, 37, 68, 69, 89 and in part sec. 38, 39 and 63), S.M. 1972, cap. 93, Royal Assent July 20, 1972 (secs. 8, 11, 23-26, 28-35, 38, 97 and 98) S.M. 1974, cap. 73, Royal Assent June 10, 1974

1A	Auto Engine Numbers in Sec 11 of "The Bills of Sale Act"	May 11, 1971	The Statute Law Amendment Act (sec. 3), S.M. 1972, cap. 81, Royal Assent July 20,1972
1B	(a) Prospect of Mortgagor's Relief from Provisions of Sec. 20(6) of "The Mortgage Act"	December 29, 1971	(change not recommended)
	(b) Right to have mortgage discharged upon payment in full after five years	December 19, 1971	An Act to Amend "The Real Property Act" (Sec. 103(1)), S.M. 1972, cap. 37, Royal Assent July 6, 1972
1C	Amending provisions as to costs in Part II of "The County Courts Act" to avoid inconsistency with intent of this new legislation	January 12, 1972	An Act to Amend The County Courts Act, S.M. 1972, cap. 38,Royal Assent July 6,1972
First Annual Report		March 13, 1972	(not applicable)
#8	Section 45 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861	July 27, 1972	An Act to Amend The Tortfeasors and Contributory Negligence Act, S.M. 1973, cap 13, Royal Assent May 25, 1973
#9	A Review of "The Privacy Act" with proposed amendments to the Criminal Code of Canada	September 11, 1972	(change not recommended)
#10	The Abolition of Interspousal Immunity in Tort	December 19, 1972	An Act to Amend The Married Women's Property Act, S.M. 1973, cap. 12; An Act to Amend The Tortfeasors and Contributory Negligence Act, S.M. 1973, cap. 13; An Act to Amend The Criminal Injuries Compensation Act, S.M. 1973, cap. 23, Royal Assent May 25, 1973
2A	Comments on draft Bill to Amend "The Jury Act"	April 21, 1972	An Act to Amend The Jury Act (in part), S.M. 1972, cap.56, Royal Assent July 11, 1972
2B	Relaxation of Limit of Number of Trustees under "The Trustee Act"	June 22, 1972	An Act to Amend The Trustee Act, S.M. 1972, cap. 60, Royal Assent July 11, 1972
2C	Uniformity of Definition of Age as between "The Age of Majority Act" (Man.) and the Criminal Code and the Interpretation Act (Can.)	August 14, 1972	(not applicable for provincial amendment)

2D	Automatic Attachment of Wages for Maintenance Orders	November 27, 1972	An Act to Amend The Garnishment Act, S.M. 1974, cap. 8, Royal Assent June 10, 1974
Second Annual Report		March 20, 1973	(not applicable)
#11	The Advisability of a Good Samaritan Law	March 8, 1973	(change not recommended)
#12	Sec. 110 of "The Real Property Act" - the immortal Manitoba mortgage	April 11, 1973	An Act to Amend The Real Property Act, S.M. 1974, cap. 44, Royal Assent June 10, 1974
#13	Pre-licensing Education for Real Estate Agents in Manitoba	December 3, 1973	An Act to Amend The Real Estate Brokers Act, S.M. 1975, cap. 23, Royal Assent June 19, 1975
#14	Special Enduring Powers of Attorney	January 8, 1974	The Powers of Attorney Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 4, Royal Assent July 9, 1980 (in part)
#15	Administration of Justice Part I - Control of Post-arrest/ pre-trial detention	February 26, 1974	Administration of the Public Safety Building in Winnipeg assumed by the Province of Manitoba, effective October 1, 1977; now called "The Winnipeg Remand Centre".
3A	Conferring of matrimonial jurisdiction upon a County Court Judge as a local Judge of The Queen's Bench within the Eastern Judicial District	March 30, 1973	An Act to Amend The Queen's Bench Act, S.M. 1978, cap. 28, Royal Assent July 20, 1978
3B	Correcting recent error in sec. 51 of "The Queen's Bench Act"	September 26, 1973	An Act to Amend The Queen's Bench Act, S.M. 1974, cap. 15, Royal Assent June 10, 1974
3C	Conferring jurisdiction to extend time for payment of fines upon provincial judges other than those who imposed such fines	October 16, 1973	(not applicable for provincial enactment)
3D	Up-dating index to Statutes of Manitoba	October 23, 1973	Indexing commenced
3E	Repeal of sec. 212 of "The Liquor Control Act"	December 19, 1973	Substantial acceptance under s. 16 of an Act to Amend The Liquor Control Act, S.M. 1974, cap. 63, Royal Assent June 14, 1974

Third Annual Report		April, 1974	(not applicable)
#16	Definition of Death	May 6, 1974	An Act to Amend The Vital Statistics Act, S.M. 1975, cap. 5, Royal Assent June 19, 1975
#17	An International Form of Wills for Manitobans	May 6, 1974	An Act to Amend The Wills Act, S.M. 1975, cap. 6, Royal Assent June 19, 1975
#18	The Rule in Saunders v. Vautier	January 8, 1975	An Act to Amend the Trustee Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, c. 38 s.4, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
#19	The Administration of Justice in Manitoba Part II - Review of The Jury System	February 11, 1975	An Act to Amend The Jury Act (in part), S.M. 1977, cap. 18, Royal Assent June 18, 1977 "Trial by Jury" - pamphlet published by the Dept. of the Attorney-General
4A	Interprovincial Subpoenas	January 27, 1975	The Interprovincial Subpoena Act, S.M. 1975, cap. 3, Royal Assent June 19, 1975
4B	Enforcement of Custody Orders	January 27, 1975	The Extra-Provincial Custody Orders Enforcement Act, S.M. 1975, cap. 4, Royal Assent June 19, 1975
4C	Statutory Sums	February 11, 1975	Various amendments to Manitoba Statutes (in part)
Fourth Annual Report		April, 1975	(not applicable)
#20	Report on "The Highway Traffic Act"	June 16, 1975	An Act to Amend The Highway Traffic Act, S.M. 1977, cap. 34, Royal Assent June 18, 1977 (in part) An Act to Amend The Highway Traffic Act and The Tortfeasors and Contributory Negligence Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 19, Royal Assent July 9, 1980
#21	The Administration of Justice in Manitoba Part III - Consolidation of Extra-Provincial Judgment Enforcement	January 28, 1976	-

#22	Some Aspects of Fire Insurance Legislation in Manitoba	February 9, 1976	An Act to amend The Insurance Act, S.M. 1982, cap. 11, s.1, Royal Assent May 25, 1982, (in part)
#23	Family Law - Part I The Support Obligation	February 27, 1976	The Family Maintenance Act, S.M. 1978, cap. 25, Royal Assent July 20, 1978 (in part)
#24	Family Law - Part II Property Disposition	February 27, 1976	An Act to Amend The Gift Tax Act (Manitoba) and The Succession Duty Act (Manitoba), S.M. 1977, (2nd Session), cap. 2, Royal Assent December 12, 1977 The Marital Property Act, S.M. 1978, cap. 24, Royal Assent July 20, 1978 (in part) An Act to Amend various Acts relating to Marital Property, S.M. 1978, cap. 27, Royal Assent July 20, 1978 (in part) An Act to Amend The Wills Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 7, Royal Assent July 9, 1980
5A	Limitation of Actions for the taking away, conversion or detention of chattels	May 26, 1975	An Act to Amend The Fatal Accidents Act and Limitation of Actions Act, S.M. 1976, cap. 41, ss. 2, 3 and 4, Royal Assent June 11, 1976
Fifth Annual Report		March 29, 1976	(not applicable)
#25	The Case for a Provincial Bill of Rights	May 19, 1976	-
#26	Revision of Birth Certificates of Trans-sexual persons	September 13, 1976	The Vital Statistics Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 58, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
Sixth Annual Report		March 14, 1977	(not applicable)
7A	The Local Authorities Election Act	May 31, 1977	An Act to Amend The Local Authorities Election Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 48, Royal Assent July 29, 1980
Seventh Annual Report		March 1, 1978	(not applicable)

#27	Limitation of Actions: Time Extensions for Children, Disabled Persons and Others	January 8, 1979	An Act to Amend The Limitation of Actions Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 28, Royal Assent July 29, 1980
#28	Enforcement of Judgments Part I: Exemptions under The Garnishment Act	January 8, 1979	An Act to Amend The Garnishment Act, S.M. 1979, cap. 8, Royal Assent May 11, 1979
#29	Emergency Apprehension, Admissions and Rights of Patients under The Mental Health Act	February 12, 1979	An Act to Amend The Mental Health Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 62, Royal Assent July 29, 1980 (in part)
#30	Confidentiality of Adoption Records	February 12, 1979	An Act to Amend The Child Welfare Act, S.M. 1979, cap. 22, Royal Assent June 15, 1979 (Sec. 60) An Act to Amend The Child Welfare Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 41, Royal Assent July 29, 1980 Establishment of a "Post adoption registry"
8A	Sec. 5(1) of "The Social Allowances Act"	March 30, 1978	The Statute Law Amendment Act (1984), S.M. 1984, cap. 17, s. 29
Eighth Annual Report		February 12, 1979	(not applicable)
#31	Political Financing and Election Expenses	August 13, 1979	The Elections Finances Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 68, Royal Assent July 29, 1980
#32	Mechanics' Liens Legislation	August 13, 1979	The Builders' Liens Act, S.M. 1980-81, cap. 7, Royal Assent May 26, 1981
#33	Enforcement of Revenue Statutes	August 13, 1979	The Charter Compliance Statute Amendment Act, S.M. 1985, cap. 50, Royal Assent July 11, 1985 (in part)
#34	Enforcement of Judgments Part III: Exemptions under The Executions Act	October 22, 1979	An Act to Amend The Executions Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 55, Royal Assent July 29, 1980
#35	Estate Claims for Loss of Expectation of Life	October 22, 1979	An Act to Amend The Fatal Accidents Act and The Trustee Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 5, Royal Assent July 9, 1980

#36	Improved Methods of Enforcing Support Orders Against Real Property	November 19, 1979	The Family Law Amendment Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 54, Royal Assent July 19, 1980 (in part)
#37	Systems of Voter Registration	November 26, 1979	The Elections Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 67, Royal Assent July 29, 1980
#38	The One Year Rule for Enforcement of Arrears in Maintenance	January 21, 1980	An Act to Amend The Family Maintenance Act and The Queen's Bench Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 21, Royal Assent July 9, 1980
9A	The Fire Departments Arbitration Act	April 17, 1979	An Act to Amend The Fire Departments Arbitration Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 27, Royal Assent July 29, 1980
9B	Section 7 of The Payment of Wages Act	August 15, 1979	An Act to Amend The Payment of Wages Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 57, Royal Assent July 29, 1980 (in part)
9C	The Seduction Act	October 22, 1979	The Equality of Status Act, S.M. 1982, cap. 10, Royal Assent May 25, 1982
9D	Section 9 of The Manitoba Evidence Act	November 6, 1979	An Act to Amend The Manitoba Evidence Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 26, Royal Assent July 19, 1980
9E	The Wills Act and Ademption	November 20, 1979	An Act to Amend The Wills Act, S.M. 1980, cap. 7, Royal Assent July 9, 1980
9F	The term "illegitimate"	December 4, 1979	(change not recommended)
Ninth	Annual Report	February 25, 1980	(not applicable)
#39	Controverted Elections	April 21, 1980	-
#40	Enforcement of Judgments Part II: Exemptions under "The Judgments Act"	April 21, 1980	-
#41	The Statute of Frauds	August 11, 1980	An Act to repeal the Statute of Frauds, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 34, Royal Assent August 18, 1983

#42	Occupiers' Liability	August 11, 1980	The Occupiers' Liability Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 29, Royal Assent August 18, 1983; The Statute Law Amendment Act (1984), S.M.1984, cap. 17, s. 28, Royal Assent June 29, 1984
#43	The Wills Act and the Doctrine of Substantial Compliance	September 8, 1980	The Wills Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 31, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
#44	The General Register	September 22, 1980	The Real Property Act and Various Other Acts Amendment Act, S.M. 1987, c. 27, Royal Assent July 17, 1987
#45	Simplified Mortgage	December 15, 1980	(legislative amendment not required)
10A	Municipal Assessment of Personal Property	February 26, 1980	(referred to Special Committee)
10B	The Marriage Settlement Act	October 9, 1980	The Statute Law Amendment Act, S.M. 1980-81, cap. 26, Royal Assent May 26, 1981 (sec. 22)
Tenth	Annual Report	February 16, 1981	(not applicable)
#46	Conflict of Interest of Municipal Councillors	January 4, 1982	The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 44, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
#47	Prejudgment Compensation on Money Awards: Alternatives to Interest	January 4, 1982	The Judgment Interest and Discount Act, S.M. 1986, cap. 39, Royal Assent Sept. 10, 1986 (implemented in principle)
#48	Prescriptive Easements and Profits-a-prendre	January 18, 1982	-
#49	The Rules Against Accumulations and Perpetuities	February 12, 1982	The Perpetuities and Accumulations Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 43, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
#50	Investment Provisions under "The Trustee Act"	February 12, 1982	An Act to amend The Trustee Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 38, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
11A	Parents' Maintenance Legislation	March 3, 1981	-

11B	Provincial Offences Procedures	June 29, 1981	An Act to Amend The Summary Convictions Act, S.M. 1982, cap. 24, Royal Assent June 30, 1982
11C	"The Remembrance Day Act"	January 28, 1982	-
Eleventh Annual Report		February 14, 1982	(not applicable)
#51	"The Survivorship Act"	September 7, 1982	The Survivorship Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 28, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
#52	Structure of the Courts, Part I: Amalgamation of the Court of Queen's Bench and the County Courts of Manitoba	October 25, 1982	An Act to amend The Queen's Bench Act and to repeal The County Courts Act, The Surrogate Courts Act and The County Court Judges' Criminal Courts Act and to amend The Municipal Boundaries Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 82, Royal Assent August 18, 1983 The Court of Queen's Bench Small Claims Practices Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 83, Royal Assent August 18, 1983 The Court of Queen's Bench Surrogate Practice Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 84, Royal Assent August 18, 1983 An Act to amend Various Acts of the Legislature to facilitate the Reorganization and Expansion of the Court of Queen's Bench, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 85, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
#53	The Law of Domicile	December 1, 1982	The Domicile and Habitual Residence Act, S.M. 1982-83-84, cap. 80, Royal Assent August 18, 1983
#54	Certificates of Lis Pendens	February 1, 1983	-
#55	Structure of the Courts, Part II: The Adjudication of Smaller Claims	March 7, 1983	The Statute Law Amendment Act (1985), S.M. 1985, cap. 51, Royal Assent July 11, 1985 (in part)
Twelfth Annual Report		April 11, 1983	(not applicable)

#56	Medical Privilege	October 4, 1983	-
#57	Uniform Sale of Goods Act	November 1, 1983	-
Thirteenth Annual Report		April 2, 1984	(not applicable)
#58	Administrative Law; Part I: Procedures of Provincial Government Agencies	June 29, 1984	(legislative amendment not required) Implementation, in part, through governmental policy
#59	Breach of Promise to Marry	October 1, 1984	The Family Law Amendment Act S.M. 1987, c. 21, Royal Assent July 17, 1987
#60	An Examination of "The Dower Act"	November 19, 1984	-
#61	Intestate Succession	March 25, 1985	-
14A	Jactitation of Marriage	October 5, 1984	The Family Law Amendment Act, S.M. 1987, c. 21, Royal Assent July 17, 1987
Fourteenth Annual Report		April 2, 1985	(not applicable)
#62	Small Projects	October 7, 1985	-
#63	"The Testators Family Maintenance Act"	December 16, 1985	-
#64	"The Married Women's Property Act" and Related Matters	December 16, 1985	-
#65	Section 83 of "The Queen's Bench Act"	March 31, 1986	The Statute Law Amendment Act S.M. 1986, c. 19, section 12, Royal Assent
#66	"The Human Tissue Act"	March 31, 1986	The Human Tissue Act, S.M. 1987, cap. 39, Royal Assent July 17, 1987 An Act to amend The Anatomy Act, S.M. 1987, cap. 57, Royal Assent July 17, 1987
#15A	Section 300 of "The Liquor Control Act"	June 17, 1985	-
Fifteenth Annual Report		May 6, 1986	(not applicable)
#67	Sections 33 and 34 of The Wills Act	June 16, 1986	The Statute Law Amendment Act (1987), S.M. 1987, cap. 66, s. 25, Royal Assent July 17, 1987 (in part)

#68	Periodic Payment of Damages	March 31, 1987	-
#69	Administrative Law, Part II: Judicial Review of Administrative Action	March 31, 1987	-
Sixteenth Annual Report		April 13, 1987	(not applicable)
#17A	The Wages Recovery Act	Sept. 9, 1987	-